

7 August 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR: [REDACTED]

Coordinator for Cooperative Programs

SUBJECT: Critique of Program

This is my second summer as an intern. I have spent both summers in the [REDACTED] Office of Current Intelligence.

Administrative Processing: I encountered no obstacle either in the processing of my request to return for a second summer or in the handling of the details of my entrance on duty. My application to return for a second summer received prompt attention. And I was advised well in advance of my departure for Washington that my requests to enter on duty on June 4 and to return to [REDACTED] had been approved.

Work Assignment: Last summer I worked on a long-term project--sections of the Society chapter of the Malta NIS. This summer I have worked as an analyst, writing for daily or weekly CCI publications. For the first half of the summer I had responsibility for [REDACTED] presently I am working on [REDACTED]

I have found this assignment to be both interesting and instructive. Because my responsibilities required me to participate in many of the regular activities of the branch, I learned more both about the Agency as a place to work and about the business of the intelligence community as a whole this summer. Likewise, and for the same reason, I have begun to acquire a deeper understanding of the intricacies of European politics.

Recruitment: My request to spend another summer [REDACTED] was in substantial part motivated by the treatment I received there last year. In that regard I was pleased to note that nothing had changed. [REDACTED] Branch chief, has gone out of her way to accommodate my interests (and temperament). Everyone else within the branch proved again to be friendly, helpful and happy to lend their encouragement and support to my maiden efforts.

After two summers I count most of the members of the branch as my friends, but I believe that most people could flourish in this environment.

Briefings: I attended only the welcoming session and the briefings added to the program this year--specifically the briefings on the Career Training Program and the Office of Strategic Research. I was one of those who last year recommended these briefings and I think they represent useful additions to the program. The inclusion of a meeting with Mr. Colby at the welcoming session was also interesting, even though his time was cut short.

Recommendations: I think that the summer intern program as presently constituted provides participants with interesting job assignments and a comprehensive picture of the Agency and its business. But I continue to believe that the objectives of

the program would be better served if certain adjustments were made consistent with a change I would like to see in the program's emphasis. The recommendations below reflect this belief--which is to change the program so as to treat the interns primarily as prospective professional employees and only secondarily as public relations tools. My point is not that public relations should be abandoned as an objective of the program, but that the participants are most likely to come away with a favorable impression of the Agency if they are impressed with it as a place to pursue a professional career. Along these lines,

1) briefings concerning the various offices and Agency directorates should include at least fifteen minutes on career opportunities within that office/directorate. Such things as desirable background and experience, opportunities for further training once hired, average time in grade for employees prior to promotion, typical project assignments, etc. might be included;

2) opportunities for informal discussion of their experiences over the summer with Agency employees and among themselves (the interns) should be expanded. The initial cocktail party with senior officials of the Agency should be retained but at least two others should be added. At the second session some of the younger professionals, including perhaps some recent graduates of the CT program, should attend. A third one could be given over to a post mortem exchange of information, one object of which might be to enable those who anticipated returning for a second summer to evaluate other offices as places to work;

3) the initial administrative briefings should be shortened and re-structured to provide only: a) information concerning benefits and other matters to which summer interns as such are subject; and b) the most basic information about benefits that will be available to them as career employees. Further salient information should be included in a handout, with instructions as to where the recipient might seek further details.

Future Plans: As things now stand, it is likely that I will be in graduate school in the fall of 1974. I would like very much to return next summer.

I am interested in the prospect of future employment with the Agency when I finish my academic program and have discussed my interest with

[redacted] I expect to have completed my coursework by January, 1975.

[redacted]  
Summer Intern